



July 26, 2011

Dear Friends:

I am working to ensure that Washington is a reliable partner in Metro Detroit's renewal. By securing federal support for new and better roads and bridges, job training, and emergency responders including police and firefighters, we can build safer and stronger neighborhoods. By fighting for federal support for high-quality schools and cutting-edge research centers, we can help lay the foundation for a strong and sustainable economy in Southeastern Michigan.

Making these investments at home means that Washington must give up misguided spending abroad. We need to put an end to the war in Afghanistan that continues to take American lives and cost American taxpayers over \$100 billion annually. Spending so much on a single country defies common sense, especially when we're struggling at home with the worst unemployment levels in recent memory.

Imagine how the \$2 billion we spend every week in Afghanistan could be used to improve life here at home. Imagine what we could do to stabilize our housing markets and repair our communities by helping distressed homeowners. Imagine how we could revolutionize education or industrial infrastructure in Metro Detroit.

As a member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I believe that redirecting funding toward domestic priorities—like hiring more firefighters, emergency medical responders, and hazardous materials detection teams—would do far more to protect our homeland than wars on the other side of the world. Funding domestic homeland security would also create more American jobs.

In the wake of this year's battlefield successes, including the killing of Bin Laden, it's time to seize the moment and accelerate our withdrawal. We need to renew focus on improving life on the home front.

I look forward to hearing your ideas for how war funding could be redirected to make our community and our nation more prosperous and secure.

Sincerely,

Hansen Clarke | Member of Congress

Statements to Congress



Please visit www.hansenclarke.house.gov/videos to view the speeches below

- Thursday, May 12, 2011 [STATEMENT ON AFGHANISTAN](#)
- Sunday, May 15, 2011 [HOME FORECLOSURE](#)
- Wednesday, May 18, 2011 [GRANT MONEY FOR DETROIT SAFETY](#)
- Thursday, May 19, 2011 [PROTECTING CHILDREN](#)
- Friday, May 20, 2011 [CLARKE ON DETROIT WKAR'S OFF THE RECORD](#)
- Wednesday, May 25, 2011 [STOP CUTTING HOMELAND SECURITY](#)
- Tuesday, May 31, 2011 [CLARKE DISCUSSING DEBT CEILING](#)
- Wednesday, June 1, 2011 [REDIRECT AID FROM AFGHANISTAN TO HIRE FIRST RESPONDERS](#)
- Wednesday, June 1, 2011 [BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR CLARKE AMENDMENT](#)
- Wednesday, June 1, 2011 [CLARKE RESTORES FUNDING TO METRO DETROIT](#)
- Tuesday, June 14, 2011 [CLARKE RESTORES \\$5 MILLION TO WIC](#)
- Friday, June 24, 2011 [LIBYA](#)



Successful Amendments in the 112th Congress



Strengthening our Region's Security

The U.S. House of Representatives on June 1, 2011 passed Rep. Clarke's amendment to the nation's homeland security budget. This successful action will preserve federal funding for many of our hometown heroes including police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. It will also provide additional funding to enable local safety officials to protect against terrorist threats and other disasters.

[For more information concerning Rep. Clarke's homeland security amendment, please click here.](#)

Improving Nutrition for Families

On June 14, 2011, Rep. Clarke's amendment to the Agriculture Appropriation Act passed in the U.S. House of Representatives. This amendment restores \$5 million in funding to enable low-income mothers to buy food from local farmers markets such as Detroit's Eastern Market. Farmers markets are playing a greater role in strengthening underserved communities. Expanding access to fresh, nutritious food will fight hunger and bolster community health. Moreover, it will create jobs for small family farmers and community produce vendors.

[For more information concerning Rep. Clarke's agriculture amendment, please click here.](#)

Serving the Community

Detroit Job Corps Shadow Day June 9, 2011



The Office of Rep. Clarke was proud to sponsor Darius Leach, a Detroit high school student in the Detroit Job Corps Center Shadow Program. Darius gained firsthand experience of the various components of a Congressional District Office including: constituent services, legislative research, office management, and communications.

Michigan State Youth Governor June 17, 2011



Rep. Clarke had the honor of meeting Ms. Hattie McKinney from Detroit, who was elected as a 2012 Michigan State Youth Governor. Michigan YMCA Youth in Government provides over 1600 high school students with a unique opportunity to become acting state legislators and Governors.

Serving the Community

[Detroit Faces and Voices of Recovery June 17, 2011](#)



The Detroit Recovery Project (DRP) supports people seeking to achieve recovery from substance abuse and maintain productive, drug-free lifestyles.

Rep. Clarke had the honor of serving as keynote speaker for the grand opening of DRP's fifth community center. "The only way you transform your city is to transform the people who live in your city," Clarke said. "That's why the Detroit Recovery Project can transform this city."

[Thomas M. Cooley Law School June 20, 2011](#)



Rep. Clarke spoke to prospective law students at the "Integrity in Our Communities Lecture Series."

Constituent Highlights

The Case of Mr. Smith

The Office of Rep. Clarke is committed to serving all citizens in Michigan's 13th District. Every day, Rep. Clarke's office strives for excellence in constituent service. This month, we would like to highlight Mr. Jimmy Smith, a hardworking constituent on the brink of losing his home to foreclosure.

Lack of access to quality affordable healthcare forced Mr. Smith to file bankruptcy as a result of his mounting medical bills. In January 2011, Mr. Smith restructured his debt and fought for a clean start, but Smith and his family were placed in an all too familiar situation—home foreclosure. Mr. Smith began receiving many phone calls from his mortgage company. He tried unsuccessfully to apply for a home modification loan. Before contacting our office, Mr. Smith secured a home modification loan. Then, when it was time to finalize the paperwork, Mr. Smith's mortgage company and the local mortgage agencies he worked with didn't have any recollection of his case. He contacted Rep. Clarke in January to prevent his family from being homeless in the dead of winter. This May, the Office of Rep. Clarke was able to successfully get his mortgage company to stop the foreclosure process and keep the Smith family in their home.

Little Sara Returned To Her Family

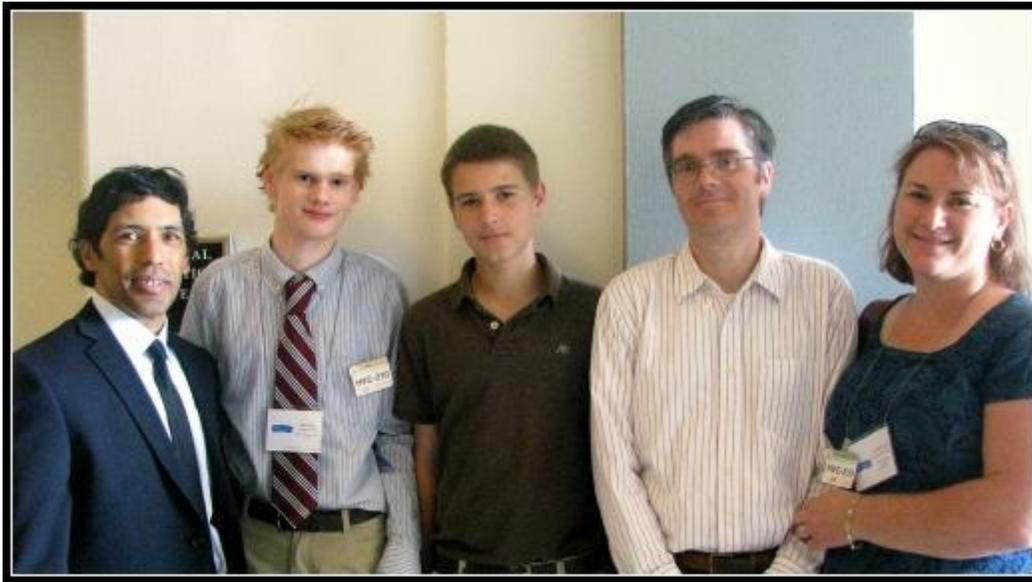


Visiting her grandmother in Syria, eleven year-old [Sara Alouh](#) was stranded in the crossfire of Syrian protestors demanding democracy and the oppression of the Assad regime. Rep. Clarke, deeply concerned about Sara's safety, worked with the U.S. State Department and the Syrian Embassy to return Sara to her parents. After speaking with the Embassy, Sara Alouh was transported to the Jordanian Embassy, and then boarded a plane back to the United States. The Alouh family and Rep. Clarke are relieved that Sara is safe at home in Michigan.

Constituent Highlights

[Congratulations Art Competition 1st Place Winner!](#)

Washington, D.C.



Rep. Clarke congratulates George Mattingly, a senior at Grosse Pointe North High School. George placed first in the 2011 13th District's Congressional Art Competition: An Artistic Discovery.

George's ink piece entitled "Emergence" was selected for top honors. Judges reviewed over 50 entries submitted by high school students across Michigan's 13th District. His piece will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for a year along with other winners from around the country.

[For more information and photos, please click here.](#)





Resources

Legal Services

Michigan Legal Services

220 Bagley Ave.
Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: 313-964-4130
www.milegalservices.org

Michigan Legal Services provides legal support and assistance with reviewing contracts, negotiating real estate sales, and business-related matters for low-income individuals. MLS is committed to assisting clients with housing, health, public benefits, and economic development.

Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan

455 W. Fort St.
Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: 313-964-1975
www.nlsmlaw.us

Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan offers free legal advice, guidance, information, and referrals. They also offer services to seniors, care givers, and care recipients. They will assist with wills, trusts, and estate planning.

Food

Gleaners Community Food Bank

Main Headquarters
2131 Beaufait St.
Detroit, MI 48207
Phone: 313-923-3535
www.gcfb.org

Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan provides food and personal care products to people in need.

Seniors

Detroit Area Agency on Aging

13333 Brewery Park Place
Detroit, MI 48207
Phone: 313-446-4444
www.daaa1a.org

Their mission is to educate, advocate, and promote healthy aging. Their website lists many useful community events.

Wyandotte Senior Center

Copeland Center
2306 4th St.
Wyandotte, MI 48192
Phone: 734-324-7275

Open from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Monday through Friday, they serve lunch at 11:15 AM. The Wyandotte Senior Center provides meals and coordinates activities for senior citizens.



Resources

Foreclosure and Housing

Southwest Housing Solutions

1920 25th St.
Detroit, MI 48216
Phone: 313-841-3727
www.swsol.org

Southwest Housing Solutions is a non-profit organization that helps uplift neighborhoods by providing affordable, quality housing to families in metro Detroit.

Detroit Non Profit Housing Corp

8904 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, Michigan 48202
Phone: 313-972-1111
Fax: 313-972-1125
www.detroitnon-profithousingcorporation.org

Counselors provide free community services to help keep people in their homes.

Moratorium Now!

5920 2nd Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202
Phone: 313-887-4344
www.moratorium-mi.org

A coalition to help stop foreclosures, evictions, and utility shut offs. Call or go online to find out which services may be provided free of cost.

Wayne County Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention Program

640 Temple St.
Detroit, MI 48201
Phone: 313-833-2948
or 877-693-6199
www.fightmortgageforeclosure.com

A free service providing mortgage delinquency and default counseling. They help create personalized solutions for homeowners who are in or about to default on their mortgages.



Resources

Counseling

Southwest Counseling Centers

1700 Waterman St.
Detroit, MI 48209
Phone: 313-841-8900
www.swsol.org

Southwest Counseling Centers provides Southwest Detroit families with youth and adult counseling, literacy programs, and mental health programs for children. They also work with faith-based and community organizations to promote the public policy interests of members in the community.

Community Resources

United Way of Southeastern Michigan United Way 2-1-1

660 Woodward Ave.
Suite 300
Detroit, MI 48226
Phone: 313-226-9200
Dial 2-1-1 or 800-552-1183
www.211.org

United Way 2-1-1 is a multi-lingual, comprehensive information and referral service available 24/7/365. 2-1-1's database contains more than 20,000 programs and services such as after school programs, senior care services, and medical and prescription assistance. If you need help with anything, call United Way of Southeastern Michigan and they'll likely be able to help you with resources.

Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency

2121 Biddle Ave.
Wyandotte, MI 48192
Phone: 734- 246-2280
www.waynemetro.org

Wayne-Metropolitan Community Action Agency provides a variety of services dealing with home foreclosure intervention assistance, nutritional community gardens, child care development, and one-on-one credit coaching for families in the metropolitan area.

THANK YOU FOR READING REP. CLARKE'S E-NEWSLETTER!

If you would like to leave a comment, please contact Rep. Clarke's Office:

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HansenClarke@mail.house.gov**

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